

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are in response to the Office Action dated July 26, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 have been rejected. Claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 remain pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

The Examiner was contacted on October 14, 2004, and it was clarified by the Examiner that references entitled "Server Redundancy Mechanisms in Asynchronous Transfer Mode Networks with Distributed Classical Internet Protocol Servers" and "Method and System for Managing Network Devices via the WEB" in the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 11, 2000 has been considered by the Examiner, and was not initialed by an oversight of the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has stated:

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Raz (U.S. Patent no. 6,292,827) of record.

Regarding claims 1, 14 and 27, Raz discloses a method at (Fig.1-Fig.3, Raz) for accessing information on a network (2, Fig.1), the method comprising the steps of:

a) allowing a first system (12, Fig.3) to submit a query to a second system (18, Fig3, Raz); please note that the client terminal and server are correspond to the first system and second system.

b) processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes only information in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query (see Fig. 1-3 and col. 4, lines 34-40 and col. 5, lines 5-10, Fig.5B and col.5, line 40 to col.6, line 7, Raz). The information resides in the external system that will provide for the second system's query whenever needed; and

c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system (Fig.1-Fig.3, corresponding text and summary of Raz). ...

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues on pages 11-12 that “Raz does not teach or suggest processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query.” Examiner respectfully disagrees. Raz teaches in Fig.5B that the “client” system (12, Fig.5B), which corresponds to the first system, to submit a query to the “server” system (18, Fig.5B), which corresponds to a second system, wherein the server utilizes the metadata in the separated “control and management” storage area (see Fig.5B and col.5, line 40 to col.6, line 7, Raz). This clearly reads on the claimed limitation “processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query”.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s rejections. The Examiner has stated that the server of Raz “utilizes the metadata in the separated ‘control and management’ storage area,” referring to Figure 5B and column 5, line 40, to column 6, line 7, of Raz. However, even if the server of Raz were to utilize metadata in the control and management system, this does not preclude metadata from residing on the server. In fact, Raz teaches that control or application intelligence (i.e., metadata) is dynamically redistributed and **resides on the data servers** (column 2, lines 11-20, and column 3, lines 31-35). Raz also teaches a database model containing metadata, which represents the structure of the data and determines the laws of data (e.g., object types, property types, data types, link types, and languages), and this metadata clearly resides on the GS Oracle database and SQL database servers. (See Figures 8 and 9, and column 5, line 62, to column 6, line 7.) Accordingly, Raz *teaches away* from “processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area **not residing on the second system** to process the query,” as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27.

A benefit of the present invention is that the second system does not have the burden of maintaining the metadata. Accordingly, the second system can behave strictly as a database processing engine (specification, page 5, lines 14-16) and therefore can process queries faster.

Because the metadata is not maintained on the server but is instead maintained in the separate storage area of a separate system, a client will have faster access times and higher reliability than with conventional systems such as that of Raz (specification, page 7, lines 19-20). Furthermore, if the separate storage area is located at a client system, users of the client system can have control over their data and can enhance their capabilities without interference from other users (specification, page 7, line 19, to page 8, line 10). Accordingly, because Raz teaches that the metadata is dynamically distributed between the servers, Raz does not provide the benefits of faster query processing, faster access times, higher reliability, and increased user control as recited in the present invention.

Therefore, Raz does not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27, and these claims are allowable over Raz.

Remaining dependent claims

Dependent claims 2, 4-13, 15, 17-26, 28, and 30-39 depend from claims 1, 14 and 27, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to claims 1, 14 and 27 apply with equal force to claims 2, 4-13, 15, 17-26, 28, and 30-39, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 14 and 27.

Conclusion

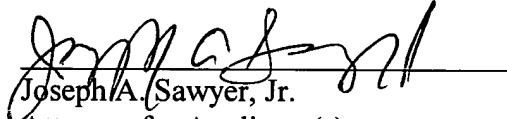
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

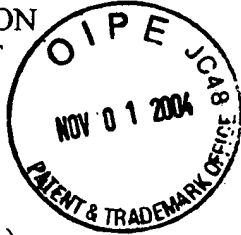
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

October 26, 2004
Date



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FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

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(Use several sheets if necessary)

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPRO.)
HT		5 8 8 4 3 1 2	03-16-99	Dustan et al.			
HT		5 4 5 2 4 5 0	09-19-95	Delory			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
HT	WO	97 1 9 4 1 5	29 May 1997	PCT	G06K		X	

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

		Research Disclosure 41451, October 1998, "Server Redundancy Mechanisms in Asynchronous Transfer Mode Networks with Distributed Classical Internet Protocol Servers"
		Research Disclosure 41452, October 1998, "Method and System for Managing Network Devices via the WEB"

EXAMINER

Hankelhan

DATE CONSIDERED

09/04/02

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.